

REMARKS

Claims 1–4 and 9 are currently pending in this application. Applicants believe that the amendments provided herein place this application in better condition for allowance, to which Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment above and further consideration of the application in view of the amendment above and the remarks below.

Support for Claim Amendments

The amendments presented above have been made to recite particular features of the inventions so as to expedite the prosecution of the present application to allowance in accordance with the USPTO Patent Business Goals (65 Fed. Reg. 54603, September 8, 2000). These amendments do not represent an acquiescence or agreement with any of the outstanding rejections.

Claim 1 is amended herein to more particularly point out what Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants believe that the present amendments introduce no new matter beyond that which is disclosed in the application as originally filed. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification and particularly in the Examples described therein. The rejections of the pending claims are discussed hereinbelow in the order that they are presented in the Final Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1–4 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by European Patent Application Publication No. EP0540932 A1 (hereinafter, the EP '932 Application). It is the contention of the Examiner that the EP '932 Application discloses each and every limitation of the invention as instantly claimed. Applicants amend claim 1 herein to point out that the chambers of the sex pheromone dispenser of the present invention further comprise a polymer membrane, wherein the polymer membrane of the first and second chambers are made of the same material.

As presented in the response to the Office Action mailed August 29, 2006, the EP '932 Application discloses a dispenser comprising two or more polymeric chambers, each comprising a pheromone-permeable upper film, which is responsible for release of the active ingredient

(page 11, lines 20 and 21 of the translation of the EP '932 Application), and a pheromone-impermeable lower film. Each chamber can comprise a different upper film, and the rates of release of the individual pheromones contained in each chamber can thus be matched with one another (page 13, lines 9–12 of the translation of the EP '932 Application). The chambers in the dispenser of the EP '932 Application require at least two different film materials having different permeability. Thus, the dispenser of the EP '932 Application comprises chambers having different film materials in construction. As amended herein, the chambers of the sex pheromone dispenser as instantly claimed herein comprise polymer membranes (films) made of the same materials.

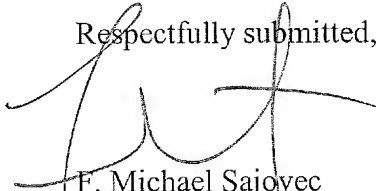
The presently claimed invention is directed to a dispenser in which the problem of using two or more sex pheromone substances and the controlled release thereof is solved by the specific arrangement of the substances in the first and second chambers, and does not require that the polymer chambers comprise different polymer membranes. In view of the foregoing, Applicants present that the instant claims are not anticipated by the EP '932 Application, in that the EP '932 Application does not teach all the elements of the claimed invention, to which Applicants respectfully request that the instant rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSIONS

Applicants believe that the points and concerns raised by the Examiner in the Action have been addressed in full, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned Attorney at (919) 854-1400 to expedite the prosecution of this application to allowance.

No fee is believed due with this paper. Applicants believe this amount to be correct. However, should any extension of time be required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefor, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any refund to Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Respectfully submitted,



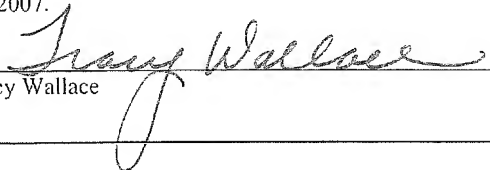
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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 30, 2007.



Tracy Wallace